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Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 02236 142153 Z

70
ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 NIC-01 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-14 USIA-12 AID-20 EB-11 CIEP-02 SAL-01 STR-08

CEA-02 INT-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 IGA-02 RSR-01 /139 W
---------- 054334
R 142121 Z MAR 73
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9071

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E. O. 11652: N/ A
TAGS: ENRG VE
SUBJECT: COPEI AGAIN HINTS AT EARLY REVERSION

1. PEDRO PABLO AGUILAR, SECRETARY GENERAL OF GOVERNING COPEI PARTY, MADE STATEMENT YESTERDAY, AS HE LEFT MEETING OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE OF PARTY WITH PRESIDENT CALDERA, SUGGESTING THAT COPEI FAVORS REVERSION OF PETROLEUM CONCESSIONS PRIOR TO DATE FIXED BY TERMS OF CONCESSIONS (1983, IN MOST CASES). ACCOUNTS OF HIS DECLARATIONS DIFFER IN VARIOUS CARACAS NEWSPAPERS.

2. ACCORDING TO ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY JOURNAL, AGUILAR SAID PARTY FULLY SUPPORTS DR LORENZO FERNANDEZ, PARTY' S PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE, ON HIS DECISION TO MOVE FORWARD DATE ON WHICH OIL COMPANIES' EQUIPMENT WILL REVERT TO THE STATE. (THIS MAY BE AN EXAGGERATED OR INACCURATE SUMMARY OF WHAT AGUILAR SAID, SINCE VERSIONS IN OTHER NEWSPAPERS DO NOT INCLUDE THIS STATEMENT, EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE OTHERWISE IN ACCORD WITH THE DAILY JOURNAL STORY. ALTHOUGH LORENZO HAS SPOKEN PRIVATELY OF POSSIBLE EARLY REVERSION, HE HAS SAID PUBLICALLY ONLY THAT " HIS HAND WOULD NOT TREMBLE" IF EARLY REVERSION PROVED TO BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF VENEZUELA.)

3. GIST OF AGUILAR' S DECLARATIONS IS CONTAINED IN FOLLOWING QUOTATIONS

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WHICH APPEAR IN SUBSTANTIALLY IDENTICAL FORM IN EL UNVERSAL, LA VERDAD AND DAILY JOURNAL TODAY: " VENEZUELA SHOULD TAKE FUNDAMENTAL DECISIONS ON PETROLEUM POLICY DURING THE NEXT CONSTITUTIONAL PERIOD. IT WOULD BE SENSELESS FOR VENEZUELANS TO WAIT UNTIL 1983 TO DEFINE OUR PETROLEUM POLICY. THIS SIGNIFIES IN A CERTAIN WAY ADVANCING REVERSION, BUT MORE THAN ADVANCING REVERSION, IT IS TO DETERMINE THE CRITERIA THAT WILL DEFINE OUR POLICY WHEN IN 1983 REVERSION BEGINS."
DEVINE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CARACA02236
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730329/aaaahvbb.tel
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 971204
Subject: COPEI AGAIN HINTS AT EARLY REVERSION
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